

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A case comprising:

a base part holding a reserve of product;

a lid covering the base part; and

a sealing element arranged to close in a leak tight manner a space containing the product, at least when the lid is closed,

wherein the sealing element is supported by a pivot incorporating a ball joint so that said sealing element is rotatable about at least two mutually perpendicular geometrical axes of rotation,

wherein the pivot is supported by a first element, said first element being pivotable with respect to the base part about a pivot axis.

Claim 2 (Original): The case according to Claim 1, wherein the pivot includes a resiliently deformable part.

Claim 3 (Original): The case according to Claim 1, wherein the pivot is supported by at least one resiliently deformable element.

Claim 4 (Original): The case according to Claim 1, further comprising a cup supported by the base part and containing said reserve of product.

Claim 5 (Original): The case according to Claim 4, wherein the cup is glued onto the base part.

Claim 6 (Original): The case according to Claim 4, wherein said cup is made of metal.

Claim 7 (Original): The case according to Claim 4, wherein the cup has a free edge against which the sealing element can bear.

Claim 8 (Original): The case according to Claim 1, wherein the sealing element is arranged to bear on the base part at least when the case is closed.

Claim 9 (Original): The case according to Claim 1, wherein the sealing element includes a plate.

Claim 10 (Original): The case according to Claim 1, wherein the lid is pivotable with respect to the base part.

Claim 11 (Original): The case according to Claim 1, wherein the sealing element is attached to the lid.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): The case according to Claim 1, wherein the first element is not the lid.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): The case according to Claim 12, wherein the pivotable element defines a compartment to receive an applicator.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): The case according to Claim 13, wherein the applicator is a sponge.

Claim 15 (Original): The case according to Claim 1, wherein the sealing element is movable along an axis perpendicular to said two axes.

Claim 16 (Original): The case according to Claim 1, wherein said sealing element provides an initial lift effect to reduce a force needed to detach the sealing element from a surface against which said sealing element bears in a leak tight manner.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The case according to Claim 1, wherein the pivot favors a movement of the sealing element.

Claim 18 (Original): The case according to Claim 1, wherein the pivot is asymmetrical relative to a third axis perpendicular to said two axes.

Claim 19 (Original): The case according to Claim 1, wherein the pivot is supported by a support element.

Claim 20 (Original): The case according to Claim 1, wherein the sealing element includes a plate having an asymmetrical feature, allowing uneven deformation of the sealing element at a periphery so as to create at least one area of initial lift.

Claim 21 (Original): The case according to Claim 20, wherein said plate has a variation in thickness.

Claim 22 (Original): The case according to Claim 1, wherein said product contains at least one solvent that is volatile at ambient temperature.

Claim 23 (Original): The case according to Claim 22, wherein said solvent is isododecane.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A case comprising:

a base with a first compartment and a second compartment;

a lid coupled to said base and movable to a closed lid position in which said lid covers said base; and

a cover member with a central portion and a peripheral portion, said cover member being movable from an open position, in which said first and second compartments are not covered by said cover member, to a closed position, in which said first compartment is covered by said cover member and said second compartment is not covered by said cover member, said cover member being coupled to said lid in said open position via said central portion of said cover member so that said peripheral portion is pivotable about at least one axis passing through said central portion in said open position, and said cover member being coupled to said lid so that said cover member is always in said closed position when said lid is in said closed lid position,

wherein said central portion comprises a ball joint in a receptacle, wherein said ball joint is positioned entirely above said peripheral portion such that said peripheral portion is pivotable about said at least one axis at a point of rotation located at a distance from said peripheral portion between said lid and said peripheral portion.

Claim 25 (Original): The case according to Claim 24, wherein in said closed position, said peripheral portion of said cover member bears against an edge of said first compartment so as to seal said first compartment.

Claim 26 (Original): The case according to Claim 24, wherein in said closed lid position, said second compartment is covered by said lid.

Claim 27 (Original): The case according to Claim 24, wherein said case further comprises a product in said first compartment.

Claim 28 (Original): The case according to Claim 27, wherein said second compartment is free of said product.

Claim 29 (Original): The case according to Claim 27, wherein said second compartment comprises an applicator for said product.

Claim 30 (Original): The case according to Claim 27, wherein said product is a cosmetic product.

Claim 31 (Original): The case according to Claim 27, wherein said product is a beauty care product.

Claim 32 (Canceled).

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): A case comprising:

a base with a first compartment and a second compartment;

a lid coupled to said base and movable to a closed lid position in which said lid covers said base; and

a cover member with a central portion and a peripheral portion, said cover member being movable from an open position, in which said first and second compartments are not covered by said cover member, to a closed position, in which said first compartment is covered by said cover member and said second compartment is not covered by said cover member, said cover member being coupled to said lid in said open position via said central portion of said cover member so that said peripheral portion is pivotable about at least one axis passing through said central portion in said open position,

wherein said central portion comprises a ball joint in a receptacle, and

wherein said receptacle is attached to said lid via arms,

wherein, in said closed position, said peripheral portion of said cover member bears against an edge of said first compartment so as to seal said first compartment, and wherein said ball joint separates said peripheral portion from said lid so that said peripheral portion does not contact said lid when said peripheral portion seals said first compartment in said closed position.

Claim 34 (Original): The case according to Claim 33, wherein said arms are flexible.

Claim 35-36 (Canceled).

Claim 37 (Original): The case according to Claim 24, wherein said cover member is asymmetric with respect to an axis of rotation of said cover member.

Claim 38 (Original): The case according to Claim 24, further comprising a resiliently deformable part between the central portion and said lid.

Claims 39-58 (Canceled).

Claim 59 (Previously Presented): The case according to Claim 1,  
wherein the sealing element is movable from an open position to a closed position by pivoting the first element about the pivot axis,  
wherein said space containing the product is not closed in said leak tight manner when the sealing element is in the open position and said space containing the product is closed in said leak tight manner when the sealing element is in the closed position.

Claim 60 (Previously Presented): The case according to Claim 1, wherein said sealing element is configured to prevent evaporation of said product in said closed position.

Claim 61 (Previously Presented): The case according to Claim 1, wherein said sealing element is coupled to said element such that the space is always closed by the sealing element when said lid is closed.

Claim 62 (Previously Presented): The case according to Claim 1, wherein said lid is pivoted to said base part by a hinge about said pivot axis.

Claim 63 (Previously Presented): The case according to Claim 1, wherein said pivot includes said ball joint in a receptacle, and  
wherein said receptacle is attached to said lid via arms.

Claim 64 (Previously Presented): The case according to Claim 63, wherein said arms are flexible.

Claim 65 (Currently Amended): A case comprising:  
a base part holding a reserve of product;  
a lid covering the base part; and  
a sealing element arranged to close in a leak tight manner a space containing the product, at least when the lid is closed,  
wherein the sealing element is supported by a pivot incorporating a ball joint so that said sealing element is rotatable around said ball joint about at least two mutually perpendicular geometrical axes of rotation,  
wherein said pivot includes said ball joint in a receptacle, and  
wherein said receptacle is attached to said lid via arms.

Claim 66 (Currently Amended): A case comprising:  
a base part holding a reserve of product;  
a lid covering the base part; and  
a sealing element arranged to close in a leak tight manner a space containing the product, at least when the lid is closed,  
wherein the sealing element is supported by a pivot so that said sealing element is rotatable around said pivot about at least two mutually perpendicular axes of rotation,  
wherein the pivot includes a ball joint in a receptacle, a block of elastically deformable material that includes a transverse cross-section that is smaller than a transverse cross-section of the sealing member, or an elastomer material having a local shrinkage



defined in an axis (Z) perpendicular to the two at least two mutually perpendicular axes of rotation.

Claim 67 (Previously Presented): The case according to Claim 66, wherein the transverse cross-section of the sealing member is at least twice as large as the transverse cross-section of the block of elastically deformable material.

Claim 68 (Previously Presented): The case according to Claim 66, wherein the transverse cross-section of the sealing member is at least three times as large as the transverse cross-section of the block of elastically deformable material.

Claim 69 (New): The case according to Claim 1, wherein said ball joint is positioned entirely above said sealing element such that said sealing element is rotatable about said at least two mutually perpendicular geometrical axes of rotation at a point of rotation located at a distance from said sealing element between said lid and said sealing element.

Claim 70 (New): The case according to Claim 1, wherein said sealing element does not contact said lid when said sealing element seals said space containing the product and when the lid is closed.

Claim 71 (New): The case according to Claim 1, wherein said sealing element includes a plate that seals said space containing the product when the lid is closed, and wherein said ball joint separates said plate from said lid so that said plate does not contact said lid when said plate seals said space containing the product and when the lid is closed.

Claim 72 (New): The case according to Claim 71, wherein said plate is free of holes thereby providing a suction-cup effect inside said space containing the product when the lid is closed.

Claim 73 (New): The case according to Claim 1, further comprising a cup defining said space containing the product, wherein said cup and said pivot are two distinct pieces of different materials.

Claim 74 (New): The case according to Claim 73, wherein said cup is of metal and said pivot is of an elastomer material.

Claim 75 (New): The case according to Claim 25, wherein said peripheral portion includes a plate that seals said first compartment in said closed position, and wherein said ball joint separates said plate from said lid so that said plate does not contact said lid when said plate seals said first compartment in said closed position.

Claim 76 (New): The case according to Claim 75, wherein said plate is free of holes thereby providing a suction-cup effect inside said first compartment in said closed position.